

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data communication method comprising steps of:

transmitting data from a first computer to a second computer by using a data transmission protocol restricting data transmission from the second computer to the first computer; and

transmitting, a signal representative of data reception at the second computer, from the second computer to the first computer by using a protocol at a layer lower than the data transmission protocol.

2. A data communication method according to claim 1, wherein restricting data transmission from the second computer to the first computer is performed at a physical layer.

3. A data communication method according to claim 2, wherein the signal representative of data reception at the second computer is transmitted via a signal line different from a signal path via which data is transmitted from the first computer to the second computer.

4. A data communication method according to claim 3, wherein the signal representative of data reception at the second computer is represented by a change in voltage or current.

5. A data communication method according to claim 4, wherein restricting data transmission from the second computer to the first computer is performed by

removing communication lines via which data is transmitted from the second computer system to the first computer system.

6. An information processing apparatus having a first computer comprising:

a data transmission processing unit for transmitting data to a second computer; and

an input unit for inputting from the second computer a signal representative of reception of the data at the second computer,

wherein the signal representative of reception of the data at the second computer is input to said input unit from the second computer by using a protocol at a level lower than a protocol of data transmission, whereby data reception at the second computer is restricted.

7. An information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said input unit is an electric contact unit connected to a communication line capable of only physical one-way communications from the first computer to the second computer.

8. A data communication method according to claim 7, wherein data is controlled not to be transmitted from the second computer to the first computer by removing communication lines for transmitting data from the second computer to the first computer, from a communication path interconnecting the first and second computer.

9. A data communication method according to claim 8, wherein data is transmitted only from the first computer to the second computer in one-way communications by using the communication path interconnecting the first and second computers.

10. A data communication method according to claim 7, wherein said electric contact unit is a contact to be used for receiving information representative of reception of data at the second computer.

11. An information processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein data is transmitted from the first computer to the second computer while confirming reception of the data by using said electric contact unit.

12. A data communication method according to claim 6, wherein the number of transmission times is added to data to be transmitted from said data transmission processing unit, and the data is transmitted to a reception application which receives the data basing upon a port number.